

this species, which was of a most beautiful purple colour, was always very much extruded from the shell, and the foot was of enormous size. The animal of *Voluta magellanica* is also purple, but of a much paler tint than that of the other Volute. I regret I was unable to make drawings of the animals while alive; but numerous specimens of both species were included in the collection of marine animals in spirit which I sent to the British Museum last year.

Believe me,

My dear Sir,

Very truly yours,

ROBERT O. CUNNINGHAM.

Dr. J. E. Gray, F.R.S.

*A mature Shell of Cypræa fusco-dentata, Gray.*

By F. P. MARRAT.

Mr. R. Keen, of Edge Lane, Liverpool, has recently procured a very interesting series of this shell, numbering nine or ten varieties; they fully exhibit the different stages of growth, from the earlier states to the finely coloured adult individual. The question formerly advanced of this being a ribbed species resembling *Cypræa capensis*, Gray, is now completely and definitely settled. All the specimens hitherto obtained of this rare shell have been either young or decorticated; and it would appear that the species is extremely rare in a perfect state. This series includes the first and only example known to be so.

The shell is a very fine one, measuring  $1\frac{6}{10}$  inch, with the teeth fully developed. The colour is dirty drab, similar to the shells usually figured; but the back is covered with rufous-brown close spots like those on *Cyp. erroneus*, Linn., and nearly as glossy, but has them larger, more confluent, and more suffused. The slightly raised ribs usually seen in young examples are not entirely obliterated by having the extra coat of enamel deposited over them.

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#### *Baleine des Indes.*

Under the above name there are manufactured and sold in Germany (and these have been offered for sale in London) longitudinal slips of the horn of the Long-horned Buffalo of India, called the *Arnee*. The slips are cut of different thickness and width to serve the purposes of the stay- and dressmakers, the longest as yet made being only 15 inches. I fear that the slips must be much more brittle than good whalebone, as they are destitute of the longitudinal fibres that give strength to the true whalebone. If they do answer, I do not see why the slips might not be made of any length, the horns being artificially united together into a mass, as the ox-horns are in Paris, to make sticks and other articles.—J. E. GRAY.